

improvements. Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment increases mandatory spending and would cause an increase in the deficit in excess of levels permitted by H. Con. Res. 95, was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S1376–79**

By 88 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. 39), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S1380**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Tuesday, February 1, 2007, following the votes on the confirmations of Lawrence Joseph O'Neill, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Valerie L. Baker, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Gregory Kent Frizzell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma, Senate continue consideration of the bill; provided further that the time consumed during the adjournment of the Senate on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, and during the period of morning business on Thursday, February 1, 2007, be counted against the time for debate on the bill, pursuant to Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Page S1466

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 11:45 a.m., on Thursday, February 1, 2007, Senate begin consideration of the following nominations en bloc: Lawrence Joseph O'Neill, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Valerie L. Baker, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Gregory Kent Frizzell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma; that there be 10 minutes for debate on the nominations, equally divided between the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary, or their designees; that at the conclusion, or yielding back of time, Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination of Lawrence Joseph O'Neill, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California; that following that vote Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination of Valerie L. Baker, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California; that following that vote Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination of Gregory Kent Frizzell, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Oklahoma; that there be 2 minutes for debate between the second and third votes; that the Senate then return to legislative session and that all time consumed in executive session, including the

time consumed during votes, count against the time post-cloture on H.R. 2. **Page S1466**

Messages From the House: **Page S1408**

Messages Referred: **Page S1408**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S1408, S1467**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1408–09**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1409**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S1411**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1411–65

Additional Statements: **Pages S1406–08**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S1465–66

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1466**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—39) **Pages S1375, S1379, S1380**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:27 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Thursday, February 1, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1467.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FEDERAL FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the roles of Federal food assistance programs in family economic security and nutrition, focusing on payment errors and trafficking that have declined despite increased program participation, after receiving testimony from Sigurd R. Nilsen, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; Robert Greenstein, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Washington, D.C.; Robert Dostis, Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, Burlington; Bill Bolling, Atlanta Community Food Bank, Atlanta, Georgia; Luanne Francis, Kingsley House, New Orleans, Louisiana; Melinda Newport, Chickasaw Nation, Ada, Oklahoma; Frank Kubik, Focus: Hope, Detroit, Michigan; and Rhonda Stewart, Hamilton, Ohio.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 57) authorizing expenditures by the Committee and adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress.

IRAQ

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing regarding the Iraq “surge” plan from Eric S. Edelman, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; Barbara J. Stephenson, Deputy Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Coordinator for Iraq, Department of State; and Lieutenant General Douglas E. Lute, USA, Director for Operations, J-3, and Rear Admiral David J. Dorsett, USN, Director for Intelligence, J-2, both of The Joint Staff.

CONTRACTING

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded hearings to examine abusive practices in Department of Defense contracting for services and inter-agency contracting, after receiving testimony from Marcia G. Madsen, Chair, Jonathan L. Etherton, and James A. (Ty) Hughes, both a Member, all of the Acquisition Advisory Panel; Paul A. Denett, Administrator, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, Office of Management and Budget; and Shay Assad, Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics.

U.S.-CHINA

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of the Treasury’s report to Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policy (IEERP) and the U.S.-China strategic economic dialogue, after receiving testimony from Henry M. Paulson, Secretary of the Treasury; and Richard L. Trumka, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), Michael Campbell, Arch Chemicals, Inc., National Association of Manufacturers, Albert Keidel, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and C. Fred Bergsten, Peterson Institute for International Economics, all of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 56) authorizing expenditures by the Committee.

Also, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress and announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Financial Institutions: Senators Johnson (Chairman), Tester, Menendez, Akaka, Reed, Schumer, Bayh, Carper, Hagel, Bennett, Allard, Sununu, Bunning, Crapo, and Dole.

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development: Senators Schumer (Chairman),

Akaka, Casey, Reed, Carper, Brown, Tester, Menendez, Crapo, Dole, Martinez, Allard, Enzi, Hagel, and Sununu.

Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance and Investment: Senators Reed (Chairman), Menendez, Johnson, Schumer, Bayh, Casey, Akaka, Tester, Allard, Enzi, Sununu, Bennett, Hagel, Bunning, and Crapo.

Subcommittee on Security and International Trade and Finance: Senators Bayh (Chairman), Brown, Johnson, Casey, Dodd, Martinez, Enzi, Dole, and Bennett.

Subcommittee on Economic Policy: Senators Carper (Chairman), Brown, and Bunning.

FISCAL CHALLENGES

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine solutions to long-term fiscal challenges, after receiving testimony from Robert L. Bixby, The Concord Coalition, Arlington, Virginia; and Joseph J. Minarik, The Committee for Economic Development, Jason Furman, The Brookings Institution, and Stuart M. Butler, The Heritage Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.

PROMOTING TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine economic and security concerns relating to promoting travel to America, after receiving testimony from Stevan Porter, InterContinental Hotels Group, Atlanta, Georgia, on behalf of the Discover America Partnership; Jay Rasulo, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, Burbank, California, on behalf of the Travel Industry Association and the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board; Jonathan M. Tisch, Loews Hotels, New York, New York, on behalf of the Travel Business Roundtable and the Travel Industry Association; and James C. May, Air Transport Association, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 202, to provide for the conveyance of certain Forest Service land to the city of Coffman Cove, Alaska;

S. 216, to provide for the exchange of certain Federal land in the Santa Fe National Forest and certain non-Federal land in the Pecos National Historical Park in the State of New Mexico;

S. 220, to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the A & B Irrigation District in the State of Idaho;

S. 232, to make permanent the authorization for watershed restoration and enhancement agreements;

S. 235, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain buildings and lands of the Yakima

Project, Washington, to the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District;

S. 240, to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992;

S. 241, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements to protect natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of units of the National Park System;

S. 245, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to designate the President William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home in Hope, Arkansas, as a National Historic Site and unit of the National Park System;

S. 255, to provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans;

S. 260, to establish the Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area, with an amendment;

S. 262, to rename the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in the State of Idaho as the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in honor of the late Morley Nelson, an international authority on birds of prey, who was instrumental in the establishment of this National Conservation Area;

S. 263, to amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes River Conservancy;

S. 264, to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the rehabilitation of the Wallowa Lake Dam in Oregon, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 265, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a water resource feasibility study for the Little Butte/Bear Creek Subbasins in Oregon;

S. 266, to provide for the modification of an amendatory repayment contract between the Secretary of the Interior and the North Unit Irrigation District;

S. 268, to designate the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail;

S. 275, to establish the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument in the State of New Mexico, with amendments;

S. 277, to modify the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park to include certain land within the GT Park Subdivision;

S. 283, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003;

S. 320, to provide for the protection of paleontological resources on Federal lands;

H.R. 57, to repeal certain sections of the Act of May 26, 1936, pertaining to the Virgin Islands; and

S. 200, to require the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey, to conduct a study on groundwater resources in the State of Alaska.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: On January 17, 2007, Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Public Sector Solutions to Global Warming, Oversight, and Children's Health Protection: Senators Boxer (Chairman), Lieberman, Carper, Klobuchar, Whitehouse, Alexander, Craig, Bond, and Thomas.

Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Senators Baucus (Chairman), Carper, Clinton, Cardin, Sanders, Isakson, Warner, Voinovich, and Vitter.

Subcommittee on Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection: Senators Lieberman (Chairman), Baucus, Lautenberg, Sanders, Warner, Thomas, and Isakson.

Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety: Senators Carper (Chairman), Lieberman, Clinton, Sanders, Voinovich, Isakson, and Alexander.

Subcommittee on Superfund and Environmental Health: Senators Clinton (Chairman), Baucus, Lautenberg, Cardin, Craig, Vitter, and Bond.

Subcommittee on Transportation Safety, Infrastructure Security, and Water Quality: Senators Lautenberg (Chairman), Cardin, Klobuchar, Whitehouse, Vitter, Bond, and Voinovich.

Senators Boxer and Inhofe are ex officio members of each of the Subcommittees.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 59) authorizing expenditures by the Committee.

Also, committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Michael J. Astrue, of Massachusetts, to be Commissioner of Social Security, and Dean A. Pinkert, of Virginia, and Irving A. Williamson, of New York, each to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission.

IRAQ

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee continued hearings to examine securing America's interests in Iraq, focusing on the remaining options in Iraq in the strategic context, receiving testimony from Henry A. Kissinger, Kissinger McLarty Associates, New York, New York, and Madeleine K. Albright, The Albright Group LLC, Washington, D.C., both a former Secretary of State.

Hearings to continue on Thursday, February 1.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 358, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

An original resolution (S. Res. 54) authorizing expenditures by the Committee.

Also, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress and announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Children and Families: Senators Dodd (Chairman), Bingaman, Murray, Reed, Clinton, Obama, Sanders, Alexander, Gregg, Murkowski, Hatch, Roberts, and Allard.

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety: Senators Murray (Chairman), Dodd, Harkin, Mikulski, Clinton, Obama, Brown, Isakson, Burr, Murkowski, Roberts, Allard, and Coburn.

Subcommittee on Retirement and Aging: Mikulski (Chairman), Harkin, Bingaman, Reed, Sanders, Brown, Burr, Gregg, Alexander, Isakson, and Hatch.

Senators Kennedy and Enzi are ex officio members of each of the Subcommittees.

IRAQ STUDY GROUP REPORT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Iraq Study Group report, focusing on recommendations for improvements to Iraq's police and criminal justice system, including S. 119, to prohibit profiteering and fraud relating to military action, relief, and reconstruction efforts, after receiving testimony from former Representative Lee H. Hamilton, Co-Chair, and Edwin Meese III, Member, both of the Iraq Study Group.

US-VISIT PROGRAM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine challenges and strategies for securing the border of the United States, focusing on the United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) program, and strategic, operational, and technological challenges at land ports of entry, after receiving testimony from Richard C. Barth, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development, and Robert A. Mocny, Acting Director, US-VISIT, both of the Department of

Homeland Security; Richard M. Stana, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; Phillip J. Bond, Information Technology Association of America, Arlington, Virginia; and C. Stewart Verdery, Jr., Monument Policy Group, LLC, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 63) authorizing expenditures by the Committee and adopted its rules of procedure for the 110th Congress.

SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS FEDERAL PROCUREMENT AND ASSISTANCE

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine Federal small business assistance programs for veterans and reservists, after receiving testimony from Linda Bithell Oliver, Acting Director, Office of Small Business Programs, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics; Scott F. Denniston, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and the Center for Veterans Enterprise, Department of Veterans Affairs; William D. Elmore, Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration; Louis J. Celli, Jr., Northeast Veteran's Business Resource Center, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts; Captain Ann S. Yahner, USN (Ret.), Penobscot Bay Media, LLC, Camden, Maine; Bob Hesser, HI Tech Services, Inc., and Allied Technical Services Group, LLC, Herndon, Virginia; and Ted Daywalt, VetJobs, Marietta, Georgia.

MEDICARE PART D

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine if Medicare Part D is working for Low Income Subsidy (LIS) eligible beneficiaries, after receiving testimony from S. Lawrence Kocot, Senior Advisor to the Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; Beatrice Disman, New York Regional Commissioner of Social Security, Social Security Administration; and Howard Bedlin, National Council on Aging, and Ellen Leitzer, Health Assistance Partnership, both of Washington, D.C.